

## Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-02 SCS-03 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01 H-02 /046 W

----- 089247

R 251342Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7716

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 4087

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, IN

SUBJECT: HARCOS/FLETCHER

1. CONGEN CALCUTTA INFORMS US THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S STAND-  
ING COUNSEL, DURING COURT HEARINGS MARCH 20, ADVISED THE  
COURT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS IN THE PROCESS OF MAKING A  
DIRECT APPEAL TO THE SUPREME COURT TO OVERTURN THE GRANTING  
TO FLETCHER AND HARCOS A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE CHARGES LEVIED  
AGAINST THEM. AT THE SAME TIME, THE COURT ITSELF (JUSTICES  
BAROAH AND CHANDRA) RULED AGAINST HARCO/FLETCHER'S APPEAL  
THAT THE FRAMING OF CHARGES BY THE SESSION COURT WAS  
DEFECTIVE.

2. POLCOUNSELOR QUERIED PM'S SECRETARIAT (SULMAN HAIDER)  
MARCH 24 ON INCONSISTENCY OF PROSECUTION'S CONTINUING TO  
WORRY THE CASE TO HIGHER JUDICIAL LEVELS WHILE PM'S SEC-  
RETARIAT WAS TRYING TO ARRANGE TO HAVE THE WHOLE CASE DROPPED.  
HAIDER SAID HE HAD TALKED WITH HOME MINISTRY OFFICIALS ABOUT  
THE CASE MARCH 21 AND HAD LEARNED TO HIS GREAT ANNOYANCE THAT  
NOTHING WHATSOEVER HAD YET BEEN DONE TO MOVE THE ISSUE ALONG.  
HAIDER PROMISED BOTH TO LIGHT FURTHER FIRES UNDER THE HOME  
MINISTRY AND TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH THE PROSECU-  
TION'S APPEAL. HE WARMLY OBSERVED (ACCURATELY WE TOLD HIM)  
THAT THE INERTIAL MOMENTUM ON THE CASE IN CALCUTTA SEEMED  
TO BE QUITE HIGH.

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3. COMMENT: AS WE CAUTIONED, DESPITE THE BEST WILL IN THE  
WORLD IN DELHI, IT MAY STILL BE SOME TIME BEFORE THE DOGS  
CAN BE CALLED OFF IN CALCUTTA. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT  
HAIDER IS STILL TRYING.  
SAXBE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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